1	2	3
Punjab	2596547	2392381
Rajasthan	1370521	1442549
Tamil Nadu	5123557	5480701
Uttar Pradesh	189798	191440
Uttarakhand	1551852	1534076
West Bengal	2729135	2638562
TOTAL:	41109174	42953009

Steps to Improve in ESI hospitals

71. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is acute shortage of doctors, para-medical staff and equipments and medicines in ESI hospitals and dispensaries;

(b) the details in this regard in the context of Andhra Pradesh particularly;

(c) the steps taken by Government to well equip the ESI hospitals and dispensaries and improve their functioning;

(d) the number of persons availing ESI medicai facilities in Andhra Pradesh; and

(e) the funds released to the Andhra Pradesh Government for managing ESI hospitals/dispensaries during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) There are some vacancies of doctors and para-medical staff in ESI hospitals and dispensaries. The equipments for the hospitals and dispensaries are provided as per norms laid down by ESI Corporation. There are no reports of shortage of equipments and medicines in ESI hospitals and dispensaries in Andhra Pradesh. The detailed staff position in respect of Andhra Pradesh is as under:

Post	Sanctioned	In position
Medical Officers	648	516* ('including 64 contract medical officers and 14 part time specialists)
Para-medical Personnel	1352	930
Other Personnel	1865	1588

(c) The steps taken by the ESI Corporation to well equip ESI hospitals and dispensaries and improve their functioning are as under:—

(1) A General Purpose Medical Care Sub Committee has been constituted to supervise and monitor the functioning of the ESI Scheme.

(2) ESI has taken over model hospital in each State to provide secondary medical care services and has decided to set up super-specialty hospital at Zonal level.

(3) A Scheme of revolving fund has been introduced for facilitating fund flow to State Governments, which also covers expenses on drugs and dressings, AMCs and equipments.

(4) The ceiling on medical expenses has been increased to Rs. 900/-per Insured Person family Unit per annum *w.e.f.* 01.04.2005.

(5) Modernisation and upgradation of hospitals by providing modern equipments for diagnostic and clinical services have been undertaken and procedures for procurement have been simplified.

(6) Indigenous system of medicines (AYUSH) alongwith yoga are being promoted.

(7) All the essential medicines are made available to the patients and Lab facilities are upgraded and facilities for patients seating, drinking water, toilet etc. are improved in dispensaries as well as hospitals.

(8) All dispensaries and hospitals are involved in Family Welfare, HIV/AIDS activities.

(9) Outreach programmes through Health education, Health camps etc. are regularly organized through the dispensary and hospitals.

(d) The number of Insured persons availing ESI medical benefit as on 31.3.2006 is as follows:—

Hyderabad	Region	494093
Vijayawada	Region	182742
TOTAL-		677835

The total number of beneficiaries availing the benefits are about 2.62 crores.

During the last three years, funds released to Andhra Pradesh Government are as under:—

Year	Amount released
2003-2004	412771562
2004-2005	374814899
2005-2006	455729500

In addition to above, expenditure on purchase of modem equipments as well as" replacement of important equipments like cardiac monitor, Multi-Parameters monitor, Pulse Oxymeter, Anesthesia System, Anesthesia Ventilator, Pediatric Monitor, Ultrasound machine, X-ray machine, Arthoroscope, C-arm with Fluoroscope, Image Intensifier, ENT Microscope, Diagnostic Laproscope, upper G I Endoscope, Cystoscope, Binocular Microscope, Automatic tissue processor, Opthamalic chair, Opthamalic Microscope, etc. costing Rs. 1.04 crores during 2005-06 and Rs. 2.14 crores during the current financial year has been sanctioned over and above the ceiling. Besides this, all expenditure on repair and maintenance of buildings of ESI hospitals and dispensaries is totally borne by ESI Corporation.

Unemployment allowance to unemployed youths

†72. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any policy has been formulated or propose to be formulated by the Government to award unemployment allowance to all unemployed youths; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith salient features?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.